

# Scouting About

News from the South African Scout Association.

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**SCOUTS**  
South Africa

Member of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement

0860SCOUTS

## NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM CHIEF SCOUT SIBUSISO VILANE

**"Let's summit Everest's and dream together"**

I am very honoured to be able to call myself the Chief Scout of SCOUTS South Africa. Honour, respect, courtesy and good citizenship are just a couple of the attributes of members of this fantastic Movement. As we eagerly start a New Year full promise and opportunities it is important for us all to be open to new information, new adventures and ideas which allow us to learn as much as we can as team players and leaders of today and tomorrow.

As Scouts we live according to our promise and laws, a set of values that shape us as people and our country and world as a whole. I have been privileged to be able to attend some Scouting gatherings including a PLTU in Gauteng. The warm welcome I received and the discipline, talent and skills I perceived were testimony to our Movements training and leadership. Learning how to manage stressful situations, how to handle challenges, how to push your own physical abilities and how to communicate in a clear and respectful

manner are all vital life skills required to treat fellow human beings with the respect they deserve. The future depends entirely on the education of children and youths, their access to information and experiences which broaden thinking and understanding in the ever-changing and challenging world.

As with every new beginning, 2014 allows us all to dream and then to set out to achieve our dreams! Every person has their own 'Everest' they need to climb. Whether you're prepared for it or not, it's there - challenging you to reach the top. It is vital to never give up on your dream, take one step at a time and before you now it you have summited the mountain and accomplished our goals!

I hope to learn more about Scouting in South Africa this year and to meet many of you face to face. Until then - as SCOUTS South Africa - let's summit all the 'Everest's' that cross our paths together, let's explore and conserve the world we live in, experience the adventures that life brings us and lead by example!

## PAINT THE LION PURPLE

*Cape Western scouts & leaders conduct a memorial service to  
Nelson Mandela on Lions Head - Cape Town.*



*From Left : Charmian Johnson, Cathy Hughes, Vivwe Benxa, Quintin Combrinck, Paddy Milner, Sam Wolski, James Peart, Robert Turner, Matthew Broadley, Morgan Irwin, Christopher Benson.*

## Summer 2013/2014

### NELSON MANDELA



SCOUTS South Africa would like to express our sincere condolences to the family members of our Patron, former president Nelson Mandela. Madiba was a man that not only inspired a nation and many generations, but who gave true meaning to the principles "duty to God, duty to others and duty to self".

"Madiba will always be best known and remembered for his epic struggle against apartheid and his central role in creating a new South Africa where people of all races can live as equals," says SSA past chairman Mr Garnet de la Hunt. "His determination, perseverance, courage and self-sacrifice for the good of other people are qualities that all Scouts should emulate as they endeavour to live in accordance with the Scout Law and Promise."

Speaking as the Patron of SCOUTS South Africa, Mandela praised the progress that the Scout Movement is making as a world leader in youth education. He said: "The international Scout movement is a world leader in youth education, and has particular relevance to the needs of youth in Africa and the emerging democracies around the globe. I am pleased with the progress of Scouting in South Africa, and in the steps which are now being taken to make the programme accessible to more young people. The importance of a high moral code, which is at the foundation of the Scout movement, cannot be stressed too highly."

*Continues on back page.*

be prepared....

## MEET SIBUSISO VILANE OUR CHIEF SCOUT:

New Chief Scout of South Africa Sibusiso Vilane is a man from very humble beginnings who is now one of a handful of South Africans, and the first black African, to climb each of the Seven Summits - the seven highest peaks on each of the seven continents - and to complete the 'three pole challenge'.

Conquering extreme challenges is nothing new for Sibusiso Vilane who was born at the Shongwe Mission in the former kaNgwane homeland, now part of Mpumalanga. When he was 6 years old he moved to Swaziland with his mother after his parents separated and started working as a goat herder. Due to a lack of funds he only started school at 11 years old. After obtaining his O-Levels he started his working career as a labourer and then as a game ranger in Swaziland. In 1996 he met good friend and benefactor John Doble who encouraged and supported him to follow his dreams and his talent for mountaineering.

He started climbing in 1996 by summiting peaks in the Drakensberg. In 1999 he summited Kilimanjaro and has since then gone on to climb it 16 times! In March 2003, he set off on his quest to be the first black African to summit the earth's largest and most fearsome mountain, Mount Everest. He summited it successfully for the first time on 26 May 2003 and has since then done it



again! In 2006 he conquered the Elbrus in Europe, the Carstensz Pyramid in Oceania and the Vinson in Antarctica. He summited the Denali/McKinley in 2008 in North America and in the same year Sibusiso Vilane and his Team Extreme partner, Alex Harris, became the first South Africans to walk to the South Pole completely unassisted. In April 2012 he completed the

'three poles challenge' (North Pole, the South Pole and Everest) when he trekked to the North Pole. In true scouting spirit, he is currently leading an expedition with a group of 13 South Africans in South America where he is climbing Mount Aconcagua for the 4th time since 2006. We wish him all the best!

Even though Sibusiso Vilane was not a Scout in his youth, he is a man who has overcome personal challenges and poverty to become the best he can be whilst embracing his sense for adventure, leadership and good sportsmanship. He lives and adheres to the values that Scouting teaches, such as honesty, humility, courteousness and kindness, respect for the environment we live in and the people we encounter.

Sibusiso is married to Nomsa and is the proud father of four children. He supports the educational needs of three young girls in honour of those who contributed to his own education when his parents couldn't afford it.

Our new Chief Scout is a man who has achieved extraordinary things, but who inspires people worldwide by his humbleness, his passion and commitment, whose every quietly spoken word captivates and leads people onward and upward and as such is contributing to making the world a better place than how he found it.

## ADULT TRAINING

Dear Scouter

One of the key needs in the revitalisation of SCOUT SA, which is currently being addressed, is the restructuring of Adult Leader Training; materials, approach, requirements and expectations, to permit faster, simpler and more ready access to training and training material. Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) by the members, from their Scouting, external educational and life experiences is a key principle for the future.

As we move forward with this aspect of the project, we request your input and assistance.

Thanks to the efforts of the members of the National Training Team (the trainers based in the Provinces) and the inputs of others working on the adult resources strategy and plans we have developed a breakdown of what we believe to be the core skills and knowledge required by Scouters to execute various roles in SCOUTS SA. The Job Descriptions for the roles are on the SCOUTS SA website at: <http://www.scouting.org.za/sasa/jobdescriptions/>

We would like you to review and comment on the questionnaires which can be accessed from the website at [www.scouting.org.za/news/revit](http://www.scouting.org.za/news/revit), for the role you are filling, or a role you have recently filled, Please use "sticky notes" or "insert text" and send your replies to Andrew Tanner, Acting National Commissioner (ALT), [training@scouting.org.za](mailto:training@scouting.org.za) and Fr. Charles Princeprince.gimli@gmail.com who is responsible for collating the responses.

This letter has been emailed to all Scouters on the Provincial lists but we would also like you to distribute this letter and the questionnaires to Scouters who you can contact, who do not have internet access. Please assist with collecting and sending in their replies.

We are especially interested to identify any skills or knowledge, that Scouters require, but which have been omitted from the list. Remember that we draw adult members from a wide range of backgrounds and many do not have a Scouting background. As a result, our training must be flexible and provide the opportunity for Scouters to obtain all the knowledge, training and skills that they require, to serve the youth in our care, as efficiently as possible. We are also aware that the training can and should include our direct training and third party training.

The intention is not to create a more burdensome system, but rather to provide our adult members with easy access to the necessary and relevant material that is of value to them both in scouting as well as in their everyday lives.

We thank you in advance for your assistance with this process and look forward to your input

Yours in Scouting.

**Andrew Tanner**

**Acting National Commissioner: Adult Leader Training**



## SA SCOUTS COMPETING IN CAPE TO RIO YACHT RACE

Eight South African Scouts are currently competing in the Cape to Rio 2014 yacht race on board of the official Scout yacht, JML Rotary Scout. Despite the heavy storms and winds the crew is doing well, morale is upbeat and confident. Experienced yachtsman, Peter Bosch is the skipper and the crew is made up of young Scouts who have come through the National Sea Scout program from various parts of South Africa.

The race started in beautiful conditions on Saturday 4 January. Table Bay was buzzing with spectator boats to view the spectacle as 36 racing yachts took to the start of this great race. The tranquil conditions were short lived as the fleet was hit by a heavy storm on the first night of the race! Reports from crews spoke of winds up to 60 knots and swells of 6 metres! The conditions have tested the endurance of all crews and boats, wreaking havoc across the fleet as many boats are limping home with damages.

Sadly crew members of the Angolan boat Bille were hurt and one person died when their mast came down in the heavy storm. Our thoughts and prayers are with the friends and family of the crew member of yacht Bille who unfortunately lost his life.

It is with much relief that the crew of JML Rotary Scout contacted home to report that all is well on board despite the very trying conditions. Navigator Grant Chapman's decision to avoid the worst of the storm by sailing west along the rhumb line paid off. The yacht has come through the storm well so far – Skipper Peter Bosch said "The steering cables slipped off the quadrant for a while. But after briefly using the emergency steering tiller we managed to get the cables back in place."

At present the JML Rotary Scout is sailing steadily in its class 2. Ocean racing can be dangerous and extremely challenging. JML Rotary Scout expects to take 25 days to reach Rio and is stocked with ample supplies for the crew to survive over this time. They have 360 litres of drinking water in the main tank and 190 litres in the forward tanks. Furthermore they are carrying 200 litres of

emergency drinking water in 8 x 25 litre jerry cans. They have about 350 litres of diesel on board which would enable them to motor for about 700 nautical miles should they need to in an emergency. They also have enough rations on board to eat 3 meals a day for 40 days!

Communications-wise, they have an HF radio, a satellite telephone and fleet broadband, which means they are able to send and receive emails and calls, weather permitting. Not only does this give them a lifeline to home but on a special note Cathleen Hughes received her positive matric results in the middle of the ocean!

In true Scouting fashion this young crew has put the Scout motto "Be Prepared" into practice.

For more information on JML Rotary Scout contact Mark Jennings on 082 789 41 30. More photos are available from [pr@scouting.org.za](mailto:pr@scouting.org.za) and a sat phone interview can be arranged by Mark, weather permitting.

The progress of the race can be tracked live on the official website: [www.cape2rio2014.com](http://www.cape2rio2014.com)



**L-R: Peter Bosch (Skipper), Grant Chapman (Navigator), Virgil van der Horst (2 Oceans District), Chris Meier (2nd Plumstead Sea Scouts), Marcus Farnham (1st Mosselbay Sea Scouts), Lorraine Le Sueur (1st Benoni Sea Scouts), Cathleen Hughes (1st Fish Hoek Sea Scouts), Ashwyn Davis (1st Bergvliet Sea Scouts)**

## CONGRATULATIONS SPRINGBOK SCOUTS



**Matthew Symons** – Gauteng  
**Gareth Glasspool** – Gauteng  
**Zhane Potgieter** – KwaZulu Natal  
**Chahil Ramharakh** – KwaZulu Natal  
**Nicholas Clarke** – KwaZulu Natal  
**Nicole Koekemoer** – KwaZulu Natal  
**Fabio Saporetti** – Western Cape  
**Sergio Jonas** – Western Cape  
**Jason Crawford** - Gauteng  
**Ashleigh Cramp** – Gauteng  
**Conner Thompson** – Western Cape  
**Michael Cheney** – Western Cape  
**Ashley Clutten** – Western Cape  
**Guy Salomon** – KwaZulu Natal  
**Michael Field** – KwaZulu Natal  
**Peter Carrington** – Eastern Cape  
**Melissa Campbell** – Gauteng  
**Andrew Boik** – KwaZulu Natal  
**Gilad Katzav** – Gauteng

## B-P's OUTLOOK

### DISCIPLINE

In a small camp so much can be done by example. You are living among your boys and are watched by each of them, and imitated unconsciously by them, and probably unobserved by yourself.

If you are lazy they will be lazy; if you make cleanliness a hobby it will become theirs; if you are clever at devising camp accessories, they will become rival inventors, and so on.

But don't do too much of what should be done by the boys themselves, see that they do it – "when you want a thing done don't do it yourself" is the right motto. When it is necessary to give orders, the secret for obtaining obedience is to know exactly what you want done and to express it very simply and very clearly. If you add to the order an explanation of the reason for it, it will be carried out with greater willingness and much greater intelligence. If you add to the order and its explanation a smile, you will get it carried out with enthusiasm – for remember, "a smile will carry twice as far as a snarl."

A pat on the back is stronger stimulus than a prick with a pin. Expect a great deal of your boys and you will generally get it.

**September 1911**



## Messengers of Peace

Dan Ownby, Member of the World Scout Committee and BP Fellow, visited Nicaragua and the Associations Cub Scout Weekend – a wonderful event, full of games, fun, and good Scouting. On the way back through the city of Managua he visited a number of Scout Groups.

He was most impressed when he visited Group 27, a group of about 35 Scouts in three Patrols. They meet in an enclosed courtyard of a Catholic Church. One Patrol of seven Scouts, explained to Dan how

## PROJECT NICARAGUA

they visited 800 homes in the neighbourhood to collect data on how they used their water. They compiled all the data and worked out with the city government to create a brochure on how the community could work together to solve water issues. They then went back to the community and taught them how to better use the water.

The second Patrol explained that they started a new Scout Group in another part of Managua. They had arranged with the church to supply food so they could feed Saturday lunch to local children at the meeting place each week. The Scouts could play games for hundreds in a safe environment. The programme has been so successful that a “splinter” groups now meets on Sundays.

The third Patrol has realized that in order for adults to have a better life they need skills. So the Scouts with their parents come on weekends to teach appliance repair, baking, accounting and gardening, to strengthen the community. They have eight older computers on which they teach kids and adults typing.

Group 27 have approached a local paint company to paint the Messenger of Peace logo on the outside of their facility so the community can associate Scouting with the positive things that are happening. There are no newspaper articles and no fanfare to celebrate the achievements of these three Scout Patrols of Group 27, but for Dan, and for all of us, this is the true spirit of the Messenger of Peace programme.

*Continued from page 1.*

## NELSON MANDELA

Madiba valued education and recognised it as the vehicle for the advancement of the people of Africa. He also never wavered in his devotion to democracy and equality as he remained steadfast and true to his beliefs. His life has been an inspiration to all who were and are still oppressed and deprived. **SCOUTS South Africa** recognises and praises this commitment to humanity.

## A QUOTE TO LIVE BY...

I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear.

*Nelson Mandela*

A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination.

*Nelson Mandela*

Let freedom reign. The sun never set on so glorious a human achievement.

*Nelson Mandela*

If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart.

*Nelson Mandela*

There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children.

*Nelson Mandela*

We must use time wisely and forever realise that the time is always ripe to do right.

*Nelson Mandela*

## IS IT NOW TIME TO SHOUT “FIRE”?

For so long, we in Scouting have been encouraging our Scouters, Scouts and Cubs to become aware and take action against what is happening to our “Space Vehicle” EARTH, the only vehicle we have, as far as Global Warming is concerned - or is it Climate Change, a less frightening phrase concocted by oil company spin doctors, to make their activities more acceptable to the man in the street?.

Right from the Movement's beginning we have had Scout Law 6 – “A Scout is a friend to animals.” From that, B-P did not only mean you to pat a dog or cat in the head. He meant that we should care for everything that affects the lives of animals in our world and I suppose we must include the human animal as well. We

have always called that “Conservation”, and we have been and are pretty good at conveying that.

We go from day to day reading, hearing and experiencing personally, what is happening to our overpopulated earth. What are we actually DOING about it?

Sure, you say, I pass it on to my Scouts/Cubs when we are in camp. I don't litter, in fact we go out on litter collecting activities, I plant trees, I use my motor vehicle as little as possible to limit emissions, I switch off my geyser and use as little electricity as I can, etc. etc. Good for you, a true Scout!

Recently I came across [bit.ly/QXxhKS](http://bit.ly/QXxhKS) a report by Dr Anderson on this subject, and

tried to access. What came up was a report by Chris Chatteris SJ on this very subject, and how this most crucial matter is being played down by the 1% of earth's people that produce 50% of pollution that results in Global Warming. Again I requested access to Dr Anderson's conclusions. “The page you are trying to reach does not exist, or has been moved.” Who must I believe. A concerned and respected cleric, or the 1% who are constantly downplaying their actions?

I am of the opinion that if we – World Scouting, do not now shout “Fire in the theatre!” to show our utmost concern, so many of the world's future population are going to be badly burnt.

Contributions can be:

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be prepared....